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From: Christine Medak
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2008 5:06 PM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: MLPA SCRSG Nomination

I would like to nominate myself to the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group.

Markus Medak

Encinitas CA 92024

I have worked in the sportfishing industry of San Diego as a crewmember, captain, and owner of commercial party fishing vessels for 20 years. I am an avid diver and spearfisherman in the local San Diego county kelp beds, and am very familiar with coast from the Mexican Border to Oceanside. I have also recently purchased a lobster operator permit and lobster boat and intend to be an active long-term participant in the California lobster fishery. I also bring a working knowledge of fisheries management as I have a Bachelors of Science in Marine Fisheries from Humboldt State University.

Although I do not have a long history in the lobster fishery, I feel that I can adequately represent the views of this stakeholder group. I attempted to lobby this group to nominate an individual with a long term history in this fishery, but nobody was willing to make the time commitment. I am close friends with many of the local lobstermen and have firm assurances that they will help with any proposals and attend some meetings, but I have not been able to find anyone who is more qualified than myself who is willing to make the commitment.

As an owner of a CPFV and a long-term participant in the sportfishing industry of San Diego I will be able to convey the interests of this stakeholder group.

One of my primary sources of recreation is diving and spearfishing in the local kelp beds, so I have an understanding of what local spearfishermen would prefer.

I understand that there will be south coast regional decisions to be made, but with twenty years of experience in the the San Diego region I can offer some very localized knowledge.

I will be able to express the fundamental interests and clearly convey the interests of CPFV owners and lobster fishermen. I presume that some of the local diving clubs are nominating a stakeholder, but with a working knowledge and interest in this sport, I will be well suited for working with their representative.

I am capable of working collaboratively, am not known as a "hot-head", and understand the value of a logical argument. As previously explained, with a background in marine science and fishing I should be well suited for helping to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies.

I am known to, and able to access the entire San Diego CPFV fleet by radio daily. For the members not on the ocean that day, I can disseminate information through their mail boxes at the five San Diego sportfishing landings.

Lobster fishermen are a little tougher to reach, but it is a small community and I will compile a phone and e-mail list to keep everyone informed. I fish out of Mission Bay, but I have several good friends in San Diego Bay and the docks are a small place. I suspect that all information will be known even before my e-mail goes out.

I am fully comitted to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group. One hundred percent of my income is dependent on continued access to healthy fisheries in the San Diego region. I understand that in the short term, it will be a significant time committment, but I am in this for the long term and understand the the implementaion of the MLPA is likely to have a significant effect on my livelyhood.

I am a current member in good standing of SAC and a San Diego lobster fisherman.

I do not have any previous involvement in the MLPA or similar collaborative processes, however my wife, Chris Medak is a biologist at the US Fish and Wildlife Service

and she deals extensively with collaborative public processes. She is willing to help guide me through this process and provide me with advice on how to effectively use this process.

I am willing to commit the time for full participation.

I will communicate with the owners and captains in the San Diego CPFV fleet and with SAC (if necessary). I will also communicate with the San Diego lobster fishermen (including Andy Saraspe, Jay Bulger, John Law, Brian Kiyohara, Randy Toussaint, John Glawson and Kelly Fukushima) at the docks, on the radio, by phone, and by e-mail.

Sincerely,
Markus Medak